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November 21, 2003

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Office of Managing Director
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Room TW-B204
Washington, DC 20554

**Re: Oral *Ex Parte* Communication
CC Dockets 96-45**

Dear Madam Secretary:

In accordance with Section 1.1206 of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. Section 1.1206, we hereby provide you with notice of an oral *ex parte* presentation in connection with the above-captioned proceedings.

On Monday, November 17, 2003, Scott Bergs, on behalf of Midwest Wireless, met with Carl Johnson to discuss the ongoing Joint Board proceeding in the above-referenced docket. The discussion covered uses of support, controlling fund growth, portability of support, and disaggregation of support. The positions taken by Mr. Bergs were consistent with papers previously filed with the Commission by Midwest, individually and as a member of representative organizations. Mr. Bergs also emphasized the need for prompt Commission action on pending petitions for service area redefinition, and in particular how consumers in southern Minnesota are being harmed by the delay. A copy of a white paper on redefinition, which was distributed at the meeting, is enclosed. Also enclosed is a copy of a slide presentation regarding various universal service policy issues, which Mr. Bergs agreed to transmit to Mr. Johnson following their meeting.

Sincerely,

/s/

David A. LaFuria

cc: Carl Johnson, Esq.